

PRACTICAL
FIRST AIDCARRYING
WOUNDED WITH
OUT LITTERSMAKING A SPLINT
WITH BOKKINCLASS IN
DISPENSARY WORKDIET COOKING TAUGHT
BY TRAINED NURSE

UNCLE SAM is leading the nations of the world in the establishment and maintenance of schools for the instruction and practical training of men for service in the army hospital corps. This corps is a part of the "mercy and help" department of the nation's great fighting force, and it is one of the few agencies for the preservation of life in an organization which is significant of the country's force of destruction. There are but two schools in the world which have for their sole object the training of men for service in the hospital corps. The larger of these institutions is that maintained by the United States army at the Army General Hospital, Washington Barracks, and is under the direction of Maj. Wm. C. Borden, surgeon United States army, who is in command of the hospital, while the other is located at the Presidio, San Francisco. In these two schools recruits from civilian life are receiving instruction and being drilled for hospital duty at the various army posts in the states and in our island possessions, and for in 1902, but in the field of battle in time of war.

At the Washington barracks every day in the year, excepting Sundays, a company of more than 100 men may be seen on the parade grounds engaged in drills of an interesting character, which are calculated to fit them for the merciful duties of caring for their sick and wounded comrades in the field of battle in time of war.

No other nation maintains schools of this distinctive character in connection with its army, and even in this government these schools are of comparatively recent institution. The training of men for hospital duty, prior to their taking to the field, was begun by the United States in 1862, but up until the Spanish-American war the number of men instructed and sent out was very small. When the war began, however, the necessity of providing just such trained men was emphasized and the work of preparing a competent hospital army was actively forwarded. After the close of the war the efficiency of the training and of the service was increased by changes in the

method and character of the instruction and by the reorganization of the corps. During the past few years the school of instruction at the general hospital here alone has sent out annually about 300 men trained to properly care for the sick and wounded, both on the field of battle and in post hospitals in times of war and of peace.

The hospital corps is a part of the medical department of the United States army, and the training schools for this particular branch of the service are officially designated as "Hospital Corps companies of instruction." The school at the general hospital is known as Company A, Hospital Corps.

The course of instruction in the school, for recruits, covers a period of four months, and in addition to discipline it embraces the following subjects: Duties of a soldier, litter drill, first aid to the wounded and hygiene, anatomy and physiology, diet cooking, nursing, including bandaging and the use of the medical department appliances; materia medica and pharmacy, care of animals, clerical work and field work. Selected men who have completed this course of instruction may be given two months' additional instruction in one or two of the subjects mentioned. At the close of each course all of the student soldiers are examined in the subject given over and those making an average of 70 per cent are given finely engraved certificates signed by the company officers and post commander.

The hundred and more men at the General Hospital are divided into four classes, graded according to the number of months the members have been under instruction. Each month a class numbering approximately twenty-five men on the average is graduated and sent out to the various army posts, and the graduates are replaced by new recruits, so that the number of men under instruction at the school averages about 100 or 110 men.

To the public the field work of the corps, the litter drills and work of that character, is probably of greater interest than the indoor features of the training. Each member of the corps is equipped with the customary army haversack, and in addition the hospital man carries a pouch, which apparently has a capacity for as many different articles as the mysterious caverns of a small boy's pockets or the magic box of the magician. In this pouch, which is about

twelve inches long, nine inches wide and five inches deep, there is room for a case containing scissors, pins, needles, thread, etc.; a roll of wire gauze, a flask with aromatic spirits of ammonia, a case knife, six packages of prepared bandages, six gauze bandages, a spool of plaster and other little things that the hospital man may wish to take with him.

The hospital corps men carry no weapons, with the exception of a big "bolo" knife. This knife is "fearfully and wonderfully made." It has a handle about five inches long and an inch and a half thick, while the blade is more than a foot long and about two and a half inches wide across the end, which is semi-circular. This savage-looking knife was patterned after the Filipino bolo, and it serves for many purposes. Among other things, it is used as a weapon of defense in cases of emergency. Then, again, it may be used for cutting grass, cutting down small trees, whittling out splints, digging trenches, cutting underbrush for firewood, carving a beef-in fact, it is a mighty handy implement to have around in time of war or peace.

With this equipment the members of the corps appear each afternoon between 3 and 4 o'clock for drill. In order that the members may have practical experience some of the new recruits are detailed as patients and impersonate wounded soldiers on the battlefield. A couple of the hospital men come upon the supposedly wounded soldier and immediately proceed to locate his injuries. Assuming that the patient has been badly wounded and is in need of immediate treatment, the two members of the corps place him on the litter and hurry him to a shady spot if one is close at hand, then producing the required bandages or other appliances from the pouch they bind up the soldier's wounds without further delay. After this work has been performed the wounded man is made as

comfortable as possible on the litter and the bearers carry him to the hospital, where he is turned over to the care of the physician.

In some cases high fences may be encountered, and the men are drilled how to overcome this obstacle when bearing a badly wounded patient. At times a single hospital man will come upon a wounded soldier on the field. He examines the soldier's wounds and administers first aid and then, since he has no assistance, the hospital man adopts the only course in the emergency and carries the patient on his back to the field hospital. This is no easy feat for the uninitiated, but the members of the corps are trained how to do it.

There are several ways of carrying a wounded comrade without the use of litters, different methods being employed for wounds in different regions of the body, and each member of the hospital corps is taught the best and the proper method.

In the field work the men are instructed how to make splints and apply them, how to improvise litters out of blankets, how to pitch, strike and pack a field hospital, how to load patients into the ambulance, how to ride horseback and various other details in connection with matters pertaining to the hospital man's duties in the field. In all of these things the members of the corps are given practical instruction every week day.

In the course of instruction under the subject of first aid to the wounded, the members of the corps not only receive practical experience at the bedside in the hospital, but are taught the nature of different wounds and the manner and method of treating each in cases of emergency on the field as well as in the

hospital. They are instructed how to treat cases of asphyxiation, drowning, unconsciousness, fractures, gunshot wounds in various parts of the body and, in fact, all the kinds of injuries that a soldier is likely to incur.

One of the most interesting features of the indoor training is the instruction in diet cooking. This course is intended to give the men a good working knowledge of how to prepare the various articles of diet furnished for the sick in military hospitals, and the instruction is given by a trained nurse. Each man in the corps is required to roll up his sleeves and delve into the arts of the culinary actually preparing the various diets. Each man also is instructed in the care of kitchen utensils and those used in the field mess and food chests. The particular uses of each diet are also taught to the members of the corps.

Not a very large variety of medicines and drugs is used in the army field hospitals, but the hospital men are given practical instruction in the properties of these drugs and the proper doses. Pharmacy and materia medica are also taught in a practical way. It is stated that a fair proportion of these students become capable and competent army dispensing clerks.

Instruction in nursing is also given by a trained nurse and the men are taught how to shake up the mattress, spread the sheets and make the bed of a patient, and how to take care of a patient's wife. They are also taught how to take temperatures, make out charts, prepare solutions, dressings, etc., and in all of these particular attention is given to instruction in the care of helpless and unconscious patients. All the members of the corps are given a good opportunity to acquire a knowledge of clerical work, the making of reports, keeping of records,

writing letters and various other features of office routine.

These features described are merely a few of the many things the members of the army hospital corps are taught to do in the brief term of four months. It is not a very long term, and yet the work has been made so practical and systematic that the men learn rapidly, and experience has proved the efficiency of the instruction.

For the last three years the company has taken part in the encampment of the National Guard of Pennsylvania at Mt. Gretna and Gettysburg, marching to and from the place of encampment with full field hospital equipment and transportation, and instructing the National Guard in the duties of the hospital corps in the field in time of war. The company also took part in the field maneuvers of the army at West Point, Ky., and at Riley, Kan., in 1903, and at Manassas, Va., last fall, dividing upon arrival at these points, each division forming a base for the organization of the different field hospitals, ambulance companies, medical supply depots, etc., required in the operations of an army in the field. In attending the state encampment at Gettysburg and the maneuvers at Manassas the company spent nearly three months in the field.

In the early part of July the company usually takes the field with several of the state organizations, erecting field and regimental hospitals and assigning subdivisions of the company to the different organizations for the purpose of instruction and experimentation, remaining in the field from three to four weeks.

Instruction in the hospital corps is no longer on an experimental footing. There is a great demand for the services of these men trained in Uncle Sam's army schools, and in several instances professional nursing schools have applied for some of the graduates. The students of the medical department of the army, during their eight months' course at the Army Medical College in this city, are also instructed in the field work, etc., of the hospital corps.

The hospital corps is composed of non-commissioned officers and privates, the companies being commanded by officers of the medical department, of which the corps is a branch. There are now in service about 3,000 members of the Hospital Corps,

and of this number approximately 300 are sergeants, 500 are corporals, 20 are privates, and the remainder are privates of the first class and privates. The compensation of members of the corps is greater than that of non-commissioned officers and privates in other branches of the service. The privates in the corps receive a monthly salary of \$16; privates of the first class, \$18; corporals, \$20; sergeants, \$25; and sergeants of the first class, \$35. In addition to this salary these men receive their clothing and rations, which is an item worthy of consideration.

Perhaps no other branch of the army service offers so many opportunities to the enlisted men as the army hospital corps. At the present time there are many vacancies for non-commissioned officers. The chances for promotion are numerous, for the members are in demand. The personnel of the corps is also of a very high standard, since the special character of the duties and of the instruction requires men of intelligence and good habits. It is learned that there are enlisted in the corps lawyers, doctors, and even young preachers, in addition to the great number of young men of various other occupations.

The company for instruction at the Army General Hospital here is in command of First Lieut. F. A. Dale as assistant, and the following non-commissioned officers as assistant instructors: Sergeant (first class) Julius Leffing, Sergeant (first class) John C. Whitehead, Sergeant (first class) Glen D. Gorton, Sergeant William H. Shaw, Sergeant William D. Twinn, Sergeant Daniel J. O'Sullivan, Sergeant Arthur S. Woodland, Sergeant H. L. Mason, Sergeant William Johnson, Sergeant Oscar L. Hughes, Corporal Louis Ohnhusen, Corporal Andrew Duncan. The company has been recently installed in one of the large barracks at the Washington barracks, and the grounds near the new War College.

The armies of the world are constantly seeking to increase their destructive power, whether in offense or defense, and yet in modern times they are all devoting no little share of attention to the gentle and merciful duties of caring for the sick and wounded, and eliminating the cruelties which come as inevitable incidents of war. It is conceded by army officers that there has been a great need of such men as Uncle Sam is now training in the army medical corps, even in times of peace, and in establishing the schools of instruction the United States has taken a step in advance of the other nations with respect to at least one branch of army organization.

The Misdemeanors of Nancy.

BY
ELEANOR HOYT.

VIII. Where Friendship Ceases.

(Copyright, 1902, by Doubleday, Page & Co.)

Rollins and Ormsby are not on good terms. The situation is complicated by the fact that the two men are joint owners of a bachelor apartment near Washington square, and even if they go out to meals and leave their cook to a life of inglorious ease, they are fairly sure to fall over each other in the hall several times a day.

The obvious moral of the tale seems to be that no Damon and Pythias should strain the bonds of mutual liking to the point of living. The Elysian fields could never live up to their reputation if the blessed were expected to breakfast in company. Still this Washington square apartment scheme worked beautifully for months. It would still be running smoothly, on pneumatic tires, were it not for the fact that the young woman who had taken the place of the young man who had been the tenant of the apartment, had given the dimers. He allowed the other two men to invite the guests, but reserved critical rights even in regard to that detail. The dimers did not like the chosen guests invariably reflected credit upon the hosts. As he once remarked to a sympathetic cook, "Young man will be young men, Mrs. Ruggles, and the ladies-of-the-house. I can understand, ma'am, but then literary people!" Rollins himself is guilty of poetry in his irresponsible moments, but Watkins overlooks that—for his father was a gentleman, Mrs. Ruggles, and no matter what goes wrong, blood will tell.

It was only a month ago that Miss Reynolds' name drifted into the bachelor apartment conversation. Rollins was responsible for its debut. Many feminine names had dawned and faded upon the apartment since the time when the young man who had taken the place of the young man who had been the tenant of the apartment, had given the dimers. He allowed the other two men to invite the guests, but reserved critical rights even in regard to that detail. The dimers did not like the chosen guests invariably reflected credit upon the hosts. As he once remarked to a sympathetic cook, "Young man will be young men, Mrs. Ruggles, and the ladies-of-the-house. I can understand, ma'am, but then literary people!" Rollins himself is guilty of poetry in his irresponsible moments, but Watkins overlooks that—for his father was a gentleman, Mrs. Ruggles, and no matter what goes wrong, blood will tell.

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Rollins' peculiar uncommunicativeness increased the interest. Miss Reynolds was, apparently, the only bona fide specimen of the real thing in the boroughs of Manhattan and the Bronx, but Rollins suggested that she was just away securely in a time-lock safe of which he alone knew the combination.

When the respective stars of Rose and Margaret and Ruth and Gladys and the sisters were in the apartment, Rollins had sung the young women's praises early and late, but when the young man who had taken the place of the young man who had been the tenant of the apartment, had given the dimers. He allowed the other two men to invite the guests, but reserved critical rights even in regard to that detail. The dimers did not like the chosen guests invariably reflected credit upon the hosts. As he once remarked to a sympathetic cook, "Young man will be young men, Mrs. Ruggles, and the ladies-of-the-house. I can understand, ma'am, but then literary people!" Rollins himself is guilty of poetry in his irresponsible moments, but Watkins overlooks that—for his father was a gentleman, Mrs. Ruggles, and no matter what goes wrong, blood will tell.

Ormsby concluded that the matter was serious, and felt flattered by the logical conclusion that Rollins considered him dangerous. He even studied his good-looking face carefully in his mirror, and decided that Rollins really wasn't such an ass as one might think. Then one day Ormsby's father came to town. Now, Ormsby's father is an institution—an institution for which his son and he entertain a profound respect. The amount of his fortune demands respect. So does his gout. But, as Ormsby, Jr., often says, it is the old gentleman's vocabulary, as adapted to his gouty hours, that commands enthusiastic admiration. It would win humble reverence from a cigar-store Indian.

gouty foot. He forsakes everything and cleaves to the governor. In direct proportion to the closeness of his cleaving so does the size of the check which he will render to the governor. Rollins usually protests against the paternal visitations. Having a tailor of his own, he recognizes the exigencies of the situation.

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week in New York, Rollins bore up like a hero. He even seemed to take on new cheerfulness.

"The old gentleman will get in tomorrow afternoon," he asked.

"Yes," said Ormsby.

"Of course you'll have to dine with him tomorrow evening?"

"Sure thing."

They separated for the day.

The next morning, as the breakfast table Rollins mentioned casually that he expected a young married couple of their acquaintance to dine with him in the evening.

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rangement of golden tuffness rippling into gold-brown shadow.

"It was invited to dine here at 7," she said.

"You make me look like a fool," said Ormsby, by any chance, save the chaperon?"

Ormsby's attention was gliding giddily away from the subject of the evening's dinner, but he tried to pull himself into coherence.

"I suppose the other people got their telegrams. Nobody here. I don't understand. It was invited to dine here at 7," she said.

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vision died away in a glow of rose, pink and red gold. One's readiness to pay the bill depends upon the quality of the dinner.

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spread across his countenance and bade fair to meet at the back of his head, in honeyed tones, carefully lowered.

"What? Oh, yes, she came down here. Didn't get your telegram. Yes, it was awkward, but I understand how you feel. Yes, I was at home, lucky, you feel."

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